

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 4 are amended. The revision to claim 1 is supported, for example, at Figure 4 and at page 15, lines 10-18 in the specification. Claim 4 is amended to correct its dependency. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 4, and 7-12 are pending in the application, with claims 4, and 10-11 being withdrawn. Applicants respectfully request that the withdrawn claims be maintained and reinstated once generic claim 1 is allowed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 7-9, and 12 stand rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,330,727 (Trocciola) in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,887,365 (De Rycker). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection; however, Applicants note that claims 2 and 3 have been canceled.

Claim 1 is directed to a CO remover. The selective oxidative catalytic device includes a double-walled cylinder with an annular clearance formed therebetween for a cooling medium to pass through, and the cylinder is upstream of the gas blending unit. By this arrangement, it is possible to avoid excessively high temperatures in either of the upstream and downstream parts of the selective oxidative catalyst device, which allows for a high CO selectivity to be obtained. Moreover, because the recited structure allows the selective catalyst bed to be cooled from the outside, the device can be simplified. *See, e.g.*, page 15, lines 10-18.

Trocciola is directed to an apparatus for removing carbon monoxide from a gaseous medium. However, Trocciola does not teach or suggest that a selective oxidative catalytic device has a double-walled cylinder, with an annular clearance formed therebetween for a cooling medium to pass through, disposed upstream from the gas blending unit.

De Rycker does not remedy the deficiencies of Trocciola. De Rycker is directed to a catalytic converter. However, De Rycker also does not teach or suggest that a selective oxidative catalytic device has a double-walled cylinder, with an annular clearance formed therebetween for a cooling medium to pass through, disposed upstream from the gas blending unit.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. Claims 2, 3, 7-9, and 12 depend from claim 1, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in

combination with the features of its respective base claim, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

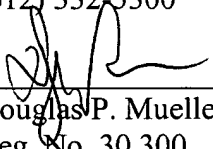
Conclusion

In view of the amendments and comments presented herein, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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